

INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

I. LEGAL AUTHORITY:

Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-112), as amended; 34 CFR 361.42(a)(15).

II. POLICY STATEMENT AND PURPOSE:

A. This section reflects the agency's policy and procedure governing the provision of Independent Living Rehabilitation Services (ILS) for clients of the Vocational Rehabilitation Program.

B. DEFINITION OF INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

1. Independent Living Services are any services that will improve the ability of an individual with a significant disability to function, continue to function, or move toward functioning independently.

III. SCOPE OF INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES:

Assessments include general independent living assessment, comprehensive independent living/PA assessment, and assessment of equipment or adaptive housing needs. Medical self-care skills training includes bowel or urinary management and skin care training. Other skills training consists of personal assistant management, time management, sexuality, transportation utilization, assertiveness, and financial management. Provision of consumer-directed personal assistance services is also included in the scope of this service (see Section 115.31).

IV. CRITERIA FOR PROVIDING INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES:

Individuals must be evaluated utilizing a comprehensive Independent Living Assessment, provided by an Independent Living Center established under Title VII, Part C showing the client's need for specific independent living services in order to achieve an employment outcome in the competitive labor market. The independent living services must be part of the IPE.

V. PROCEDURES:

- A. Once a client has met VR eligibility criteria or is in extended evaluation, and specific independent living services have been assessed and are required, and the IPE has been

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developed, the counselor will authorize payment in accordance with existing agency fee schedule.

- B. The only exception will be in the case of consumer-directed personal assistance services (see Section 115.31).